

Preliminary Amendment
Application No.: filed concurrently
July 15, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please substitute claims 1-12 and 15-22 for the pending claims with the same numbers respectively:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus comprising red phosphorus-containing particles ~~(A)~~ whose surfaces are coated with a modified resin film ~~(F)~~ containing white particles ~~(B)~~ having a whiteness of 70 or more, color particles ~~(C)~~ having a hue H of 30 to 80 in the Munsell color-system hue circle, and a binder resin ~~(D)~~.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus according to claim 1, wherein the red phosphorus-containing particles ~~(A)~~ are at least one type selected from the group consisting of red phosphorus particles ~~(A1)~~, stabilized red phosphorus ~~(A2)~~ comprising the red phosphorus particles ~~(A1)~~ whose surfaces are coated with an inorganic material, stabilized red phosphorus ~~(A3)~~ comprising the red phosphorus particles ~~(A1)~~ whose surfaces are coated with a thermosetting resin, and double-coated stabilized red phosphorus ~~(A4)~~ comprising the red phosphorus

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particles ~~(A1)~~ whose surfaces are coated with the inorganic material and further coated with the thermosetting resin.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the content of the white particles ~~(B)~~ is 10 to 50% by weight, and the content of the color particles ~~(C)~~ is 0.1 to 5.0% by weight.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus according to ~~any one of Claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein the average particle diameter is 1 to 100 μm .

Claim 5 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus according to ~~any one of Claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein the red phosphorus content is 50 to 90% by weight.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus according to ~~any one of Claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein the white particles ~~(B)~~ are composed of titanium dioxide.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus according to ~~any one of Claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein the color particles ~~(C)~~ are green particles or blue particles.

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Claim 8 (Currently amended): ~~Modified~~ A modified red phosphorus according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the color particles ~~(C)~~ are particles of at least one pigment selected from the group consisting of phthalocyanine green, phthalocyanine blue, dichromium trioxide, ultramarine blue, and iron blue.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): A method of producing modified red phosphorus comprising performing a curing reaction of a binder resin ~~(D)~~ in an aqueous slurry containing red phosphorus-containing particles ~~(A)~~, white particles ~~(B)~~ having a whiteness of 70 or more, and color particles ~~(C)~~ having a hue H of 30 to 80 in the Munsell color-system hue circle.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): A method of producing modified red phosphorus according to claim 9, wherein the curing reaction of the binder resin ~~(D)~~ is a polymerization reaction of a synthetic raw material or initial condensation product of a thermosetting resin.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): A method of producing modified red phosphorus according to claim 9, wherein the curing

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reaction of the binder resin ~~(D)~~ is a radical polymerization reaction of a monomer having an unsaturated double bond.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A method of producing modified red phosphorus according to claim 9, wherein the curing reaction of the binder resin ~~(D)~~ is a polymerization reaction of a cationic water-soluble resin in the presence of a nonionic surfactant or anionic surfactant.

Claim 13 (Original): A method of producing modified red phosphorus according to claim 10, wherein the thermosetting resin is a phenolic resin.

Claim 14 (Original): A method of producing modified red phosphorus according to claim 12, wherein the cationic water-soluble resin is a polyamide-epoxy resin.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): A decolorized red phosphorus composition comprising a mixed powder containing modified red phosphorus ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 8 and white particles (B) having a whiteness of 70 or more,~~ said modified red phosphorus comprising red phosphorus-containing particles whose surfaces are coated with a modified resin film containing white

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particles having a whiteness of 65 or more, color particles having a hue H of 30 to 80 in the Munsell color-system hue circle, and a binder resin.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): A decolorized red phosphorus composition according to claim 15, wherein the mixed powder further contains color particles ~~(C)~~ having a hue H of 30 to 80 in the Munsell color-system hue circle.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): A decolorized red phosphorus composition according to claim 15 ~~or 16~~, wherein the whiteness is ~~65~~ 70 or more.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): A decolorized red phosphorus composition according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 15 ~~to 17~~, wherein the hue H in the Munsell color-system hue circle is 20 to 80.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): A decolorized red phosphorus composition according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 15 ~~to 18~~, wherein the red phosphorus content is 20% by weight or more.

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Claim 20 (Currently amended): A decolorized red phosphorus composition according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 15 to 19, wherein the white particles ~~(B)~~ are composed of titanium dioxide.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): A decolorized red phosphorus composition according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 15 to 20, wherein the color particles ~~(C)~~ are green particles or blue particles.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): A flame-retardant polymer composition comprising a decolorized red phosphorus composition ~~according to any one of claims 15 to 21~~ and a polymer compound (I), said red phosphorus composition comprising a mixed powder containing modified red phosphorus, said modified red phosphorus comprising red phosphorus-containing particles whose surfaces are coated with a modified resin film containing white particles having a whiteness of 65 or more, color particles having a hue H of 30 to 80 in the Munsell color-system hue circle, and a binder resin.